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DOCUMENTS

Journal of Occurrences at Nisqually House, 1833

Introduction

For this second installment of the Nisqually Journal of 1833, I have little to add to the introduction prepared for the first installment. One matter should be spoken of and that is the fact that where gaps occur or where entries have become obliterated or blurred we have been able to adjust the record by reference to the private journal of Dr. William Fraser Tolmie. This has been done in foot-notes so as to keep the Journal true to itself.

CLARENCE B. BAGLEY.

(Continued from the Quarterly for July, 1915, page 197.)

OCTOBER 1833

[Tuesda]y 1 Work proceeding as yesterday—covering of house completed—Pierre Charles complaining much of pain in ankle joint of injured foot

Wednesday 2 All the men occupied in squaring logs except P. Charles who has today by my advice refrained from working. Since Sunday have daily bartered a few Otter & small beaver skins principally for Red Baize which is now almost done Duffle is eagerly sought after, but the price of four beaver per Fathom is considered as too high

Thursday 3—Having since Sunday received almost daily reports from the Indians at the beach that an attack upon us is mediated by a party of Klalums headed by the son of the chief who was slain by Mr. McLeod's⁵² war Party the men were this afternoon employed in erecting a line of pickets which extends from the farther side of the door case of their house to the N. E. corner of store tomorrow another row will be set up in front reaching from the farther win[dow] of the people's house to the S. W. cor[ner] of of store & like the first leaving a p[assage] about 6 feet in breadth. This out [] ring the door & windows of both houses by enabling us better to withstand an attack [is other]wise in some degree a security against [the pet]ty depradations of the Indians living [hereabouts] who take every opportunity of pilfering; [they have] stolen a large axe

Friday 4 Men today occupied as yesterday afternoon The Indians have

⁵²A source account of this event was published in the Washington Historical Quarterly, Volume 1, No. 2, under the caption: Earliest Expeditions Against Puget Sound Indians, by Frank Ermatinger.

for some time past been bringing accounts of the arrival of American vessels in the Sound⁵³ with a view to bring about a reduction of the Tariff. Failing in this aim they have probably fabricated the report mentioned in yesterday's journal in order to intimidate us & to their own consequence, as Challicoom my informant offered to remain here with his people as a protector—'Tis said the Klalums have taken umbrage at the rise of Tariff which they term "robbing the Indians of one beaver". Shall, if anything transpires [Page 24, October, 1833.—Interpolation by Huggins.] to corroborate the rumour immediately write to Mr. Heron.⁵⁴

Saturday 5—A Scadchet chief arrived, but has not produced any beaver as yet—One man employed with the oxen in hauling the squared logs, the others have finished the erection of pickets

[Sund]ay 6 Nothing particular

[Mond]ay 7 Two men have been squaring couples, one with the oxen hauling logs & the rest in adjusting the sole & posts of house which is to be 55 feet by 20 & the walls 12 feet high

[Tuesday] 8 All the men except one occupied in laying the sole & fitting the posts therein—The squared wood amounting to 200 pieces each 10 feet long has now been carried home, a band of Scadchet appeared in the evening

Wednesday 9 Only two beaver bartered by the Scadchet hunter, but the rest of his stock is left with one of the Indians below, who say they are all to trade on the arrival of goods

Thursday 10 A Klalum chief arrived this evening he declared as false the charge made against his tribe of evil intentions towards us—All the men engaged in fitting the logs of house

October 1833 [page 25—interpolation by Huggins]

Friday 11—The Klalum only bartered his small skins

Saturday 12—Men engaged as on Thursday

Sunday 13 A few Thunaook⁵⁵ arrived today

Monday 14 Work resumed as on Saturday

Tuesday 15—The Indians who for the last [s]ix weeks have been living

⁵³It is interesting to note the early use of the word Sound as a generic term for all these northwest waters. Captain George Vancouver in 1792 designated these waters by five names, viz., Strait of Juan de Fuca, Canal de Arro, Gulf of Georgia, Admiralty Inlet, and Puget Sound, but at the present time all save two, Puget Sound and Strait of Juan de Fuca, have ceased to be terms of popular parlance. Only the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey charts officially recognize them. Nor is the term Strait of Juan de Fuca safe from ultimate extinction. In 1859 no less a person than Governor Douglas spoke of Vancouver Island as being in Puget Sound, and in a recent decision of the superior court of Clallam County, Judge Ralston held that for the purposes of the fishing laws, the Strait of Juan de Fuca was a part of Puget Sound.

⁵⁴Mr. Heron left Nisqually House for Fort Vancouver on Sept. 23, and returns Nov. 13.

⁵⁵The Twana which occupied the country on both side of Hood Canal.

at the be[ac]h are now beginning to move off to [their] respective habitations for the pur[pose] of laying in a stock of salmon for [the win]ter

Wednesday 16—The men have this evening [finis]hed the erection of the walls of [the house] The Sannahomish Watsk [] has come with a few skins [but with the ex]ception of a single blanket [duffle] is the only woolen on hand.

Thursday 17 The "Frenchman"⁵⁶ traded all [his] [beaver] skins and has taken a small quantity of duffle

Friday 18 The work of yesterday & today has been the fitting of roof plate & couples and is now completed

Saturday 19—Ellacoom the Claaset who visi[ted] us early in August with a party and accompanied by several Klalum chiefs arrived this morning and seemed much disappointed at finding us so destitute of goods. He has purchased a common gun for a small sea otter & five beaver

October 1833 [page 26—interpolation by Huggins]

Sunday 20 A good many small beaver & otters bartered by our visitors who are anxious to return home. This afternoon a violent gale from the westward laid prostrate the line of pickets in front of store which fortunately however fell outwards & no damage has been sustained by either of the houses—The men set to work immediately to deepen the trench

M[on]day 21 Some duffle disposed of this morning to Ellacoom—The Klalums have parted with very few of their large beaver & grumbled much at the change of tariff, but did not in the least manifest a hostile disposition. Both parties left us in the forenoon carrying away from 60 to 80 beaver, all of which could have been bartered, had there been any variety of goods—men all day occupied in setting up the pickets

[Tues]day 22. A few undersized beavers traded by the Soquamish, who have all decamped this afternoon—Men occupied in squaring logs for the partitions of house

Wednesday 23. Clay well adapted for the construction of chimnies having been yesterday discovered a short distance from the house two men employed in preparing wheels for a waggon in which the earth can be carried home by the oxen. One man getting home the logs the rest occupied about the house

October 1833 [page 27—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 24—P. Charles preparing the doors the others building the partitions of house except two men who are still occupied with the waggon

Friday 25—Work proceeding as yesterday, waggon finished

⁵⁶Tolmie's description of this Indian is excellent: "There is also a Skalatchet chief who discoursing in European style and sporting bushy whiskers is styled 'The Frenchman.' It is discovered by accident tonight that he understood the Spokane language, which his wife speaks."—Journal of William Fraser Tolmie, July 3, 1833.

Saturday 26—Two men employed in building a haystack overturned by the gale [on] Sunday—The others except P. C. about house [busy] in laying the sleepers & closing [in the] roof at each end with boards

Sunday 27. The large canoe which has [. . .] repeatedly stolen was today found in the Seguallitch Creek⁵⁷ [. . .] whence it cannot be remo[ved with]out much labor

Monday 28—Three men assisted by Indians have removed a haystack from the marsh to a dry spot in its vicinity the others have been working at the house as on Saturday

Tuesday 29—The weather being favorable we today felled several of the large pines growing in the immediate vicinity of the establishment which could not at a future period be so conveniently cut down & if overthrown by a storm might be productive of serious damage to us

October 1833 [page 28—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 30—Men employed as yesterday. A few Thuanook arrived with beaver but have not traded.

Thursday 31 The progress of the house being retarded for the present, owing to the want of boards for the roof and flooring, two men commenced arranging the pickets on the ground & three have been forming a cart road to the beach

November 1833

[Frida]y 1 According to custom this has been observed as a holiday⁵⁸

[Satur]day 2—There being a sufficiency of sound boards for that purpose, the roofing of the portion of house intended for Mr. Heron's apartment has employed three men, the other three have been arranging the pickets

Sunday 3

Monday 4—A chimney begun in Mr. Heron's apartment which has received a temporary flooring, one man procuring clay two engaged as yesterday with the pickets

Tuesday 5. Work proceeding as yesterday

Wednesday 6—Mr. Heron's room lined with mats & otherwise prepared for his reception

November 1833 [page 28—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 7—People occupied as yesterday

Friday 8 Chimney finished, three men have been cutting pickets. The others doing sundry jobs about the house

Saturday 9—Four men cutting pickets—Two preparing furniture for Mr. Heron's room

⁵⁷In Journal of William Fraser Tolmie, Oct. 26, 1833, Tolmie writes: "...Afterwards rambled through the marsh along the banks of the Sequallitch (the Indian name for the Coe)." The present name is Sequallitchew Creek.

⁵⁸All Saints Day.

Sunday 10

Monday 11—Work resumed as on Saturday except that one man was employed in g[etting] home the pickets—This evening an [Indian] brought a note from Mr. Heron [dated] Cowlitz Portage 9th currt. Mr. [H. wants] a canoe to meet him at the Chute.

Tuesday 12—From the purport of Mr. [Heron's no]te, the immediate arrival of the Cadboro' may be expected; four men were therefore set to work at the road begun on the 31st Ult. The large canoe manned by Indians dispatched to the Chute this morning

Wednesday 13 Work proceeding as yesterday Mr. Hernon arrived about sunset accompanied by Ouvrie & six men. Several of the Portage Indians have appeared, also some Soquamish, Sannahomish & Scadchet traders.

November 1833 [page 30—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 14—Men have been arranging & boring the pickets. Those who arrived yesterday have not worked

Friday 15—All the men have been employed at the pickets—Indians congregating from various parts, but they have not visited the trading shop

Saturday 16—Work proceeding as yesterday Wm. Brown confined with an attack of Intermittent Fever, which has hung about him since his leaving Vancouver

Sunday 17⁵⁹

Monday 18—Upwards of 60 skins traded, chiefly from the Scadchet & Sannahomish Work resumed as upon Saturday In consequence of an Indian report that the Cadboro' was wrecked off Cape Flattery, Ouvrie was sent off in that direction to ascertain the correctness of the rumour

Tuesday 19—Tonight the arranging and boring of the pickets finished.

Wednesday 20—The trench in which the pickets are to be placed, was begun this morning—a party of Sinnamish appeared with a few beaver

November 1833 [page 31—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 21. Men at work as yesterday except two who have been smoke drying the salmon sent from Fort Langley which were becoming mouldy

Friday 22—Five men working at the trench the others have been erecting the pickets except one who has had charge of the salmon the which were tonight replaced in the store

⁵⁹Tolmie in his Journal makes the following entry: "Today has been by no means so well spent as last Sunday. The whole forenoon was spent in examining the furs and the tools which have been in use and of which several are not forthcoming. Since Monday worldly affairs have more exclusively occupied my attention to the neglect of the more important affairs which concern my salvation, greater exertions on my own part and humble prayers to the Almighty for assistance are necessary and may God grant that I may not be a castaway."

Saturday 23—Some Tekatat⁶⁰ Indians arrived work continued as yesterday

Sunday 24

Monday 25—Ouvrie returned early this [mor]ning having proceeded as far as the [Kla]lum village near Point Discovery without hearing of the Cadboro' so that [Indian report] of the 18th must be groundless—About the breakfast hour two men from Vancouver arrived, for the purpose of procuring from the Cadboro Mr. Ogden's private letters, that gentleman having very lately returned to headquarters

Tuesday 26—Some Thuanook arrived with furs.

Wednesday 27 Very few beaver produced by the Thuanook & these they were loth to trade—Ouvrie and the Vancouver men sent to procure the letters for Mr. Ogden from the Cadboro', which, if indian report is to be trusted, cannot be far distant

November 1833 [page 32—interpolation by Huggins]

Thursday 28—Men still engaged with the pickets today there is scarcely an indian to be seen about the premises

Friday 29—Tonight the erection of pickets has been completed—Ouvrie has returned but brings no intelligence of the Schooner

Saturday 30—One man preparing the pitsaw⁶¹; two digging a saw pit & the others filling up the trench in which the pickets stand

December 1833

Sunday 1⁶²

[Monday] 2—Three men preparing saw pit one setting the saw—The others preparing pickets which are to be erected within the Fort

Tuesday 3—Two men have commenced sawing boards for the Gate, which is to be plaecd in the S. W. row of pickets—three in putting up a row of pickets extending from the corner of Store to that of peoples' house in front—two repairing boat & the rest sawing & boring pickets.

Wednesday 4—One man squaring wood for saw pit & two have been sawing—a row of pickets erected from each corner of peoples house to W. extending to pickets—this enables them to exclude the Indians—another row connects the S. E. corner of store with the pickets behind thus, there

December 1833 [page 33—interpolation by Huggins]

is a small court formed between the ends of the people's house & store, where the Indians can remain while waiting their turn to trade, without

⁶⁰The identity of these Indians has not been established. They could hardly be the Klikitat, for on December 10 Tolmie uses this term as we know it today. Possibly they may be the Indians who lived near what is now Port Gamble at Teekalet.

⁶¹Probably the first saw-mill on Puget Sound.

⁶²In his Journal for this date Tolmie writes of a tumorous growth which has manifested itself upon his body and which is causing him much uneasiness.

being able (if it is so wished) either to enter the main or inner court, or enter the people's house

Thursday 5. P. Charles with 4 men dispatched in the boat to Fort Langley for a supply of goods & provisions; the Cadboro' coming being despaired of—He was instructed to return if he met the vessel & he [returned] tonight accompanied by some [Indians] who say that the vessel is approaching and not far distant One man shar[pening] pitsaw 3 repairing bags & making [] & the others preparing boat in the forenoon.⁶³

Friday 6—Boat manned by five men dispatched this mg. to ascertain the correctness of the indian report of yesterday—Men employed in leveling the yard which some days ago was ploughed & harrowed in clearing away the rubbish in the small court & that [. . .] without the pickets—

Saturday 7—Work proceeding as yesterday & in addition all the doors have been made within & the small gate by which the indians enter to trade. Boards have not yet been prepared for the large gate

Sunday 8—The men returned today having met the vessel near Whidbey's island—She has been delayed hitherto by foul winds & is still beating December 1833 [page 34—interpolation by Huggins] against a contrary breeze—I have received instructions from Mr. McLoughlin to proceed in the Cadboro' to [Milbank Sound]

Monday 9—The weather being still unfavorable for the vessel P. Charles was sent along with four men to bring up a boat's cargo of the goods for this place he was also furnished with a line to the Captain requesting that the long boat be freighted, so all further delay may be avoided.

[Tue]sday 10—Pitsaw at work; one man squaring logs for saw pit, one making stools & the others still clearing away the rubbish, &c much trouble having been of late occasioned by the two stallions frequent wanderings they have been castrated by a Klikatat Indian.

Wednesday 11 The boats arrived this morning [late] & the people were employed till nearly midday in carrying up the goods from beach. The Vancr. men dispatched with Mr Ogden's private letters. The boat is to set out tomorrow for the remainder of the cargo for this place. Tomorrow I am to join the Cadboro' in obedience to Mr McLoughlin's instructions

William Fraser Tolmie.

⁶³The manuscript at this place is badly damaged and for this reason Tolmie's entry in his Journal for that date is here reproduced in full: "P. Charles and party dispatched this forenoon to Ft. Langley for a supply of goods, and provisions we have despaired of the Cadboro's coming. Pierre however returned about 8 p. m. having been informed by a party of Noosclalum that the vessel was in the Sound, in the Soquamish country not far from Challicoom's summer residence. They said she had lost a mast. This intelligence proved exceedingly welcome to us and I am to start in the boat tomorrow morning to meet the schooner and receive my letters."

December 1833 [page 35]

Thursday 12th⁶⁴ Sent our boat with five men to the Cadboro' for the remainder of our goods by which conveyance Doctor Tolmie went on board with his baggage to proceed to his destination at Fort McLoughlin. The men at the place employed at various necessary jobs—Fine clear weather.—
Friday 13th This morning our boat returned from the Cadboro' with the remainder of our things, part of which got slightly wet owing to the roughness of the sea—

Having examined and stowed everything in its proper place, I equipped I. B. Ouvre with some trading goods, tools, & provisions and sent him off about noon with part of the same in a canoe, assisted by Indians, to break ground at Whidbeys Island with three men, in hopes that a reinforcement would soon cast up as promised from Fort Vancouver, for the purpose of commencing a new establishment there to answer for Fort Langley and this place—And there being no Indians on this ground I thought it might probably be the best opportunity I would have of taking a run to Fort Langley to see how affairs were going on there; and I wished likewise to set our people agoing on Whidbeys Island on my way thither—I therefore—I therefore took five men, with most of the things for

December 1833 [page 36]

Whidbey's Island, in our boat, and started late in the evening with the tide. We had not however gone far till, as night set in, we were overtaken by a gale of wind—We however after several fruitless attempts at length got safe ashore where we remained till next morning—the weather was still boisterous on the 14th, but being anxious to know how Ouvre had fared in the gale of the preceding night, and knowing he was not ahead, I put back in search of him—We continued the search until within a few miles of the fort when apprehending that we must either have missed him or that some misfortune had befallen him, I landed the cargo in consequence of our still shipping heavy seas and with one man remained in charge of it. The rest of the people in the light boat, then returned in search of Ouvre.—That day and the following night having passed and the boat not returning I took my passage to the fort in an Indian canoe early in the morning of the 15th to learn whether anything had been beard of Ouvre, as well as to see how things were going on; but to my great surprise I found on my return that I had been sadly deceived in regard to Pierre Charles whom I left in charge and who was the only man I had whom I could at all think of entrusting the place to. In short

December 1833 [page 37]

(without entering into particulars) I found things in such a bad state that

⁶⁴The Journal is now kept by Mr. Heron.

I could not, from a sense of duty, or any degree or propriety, think of leaving the place any longer in his charge and having no fitter person I determined on relinquishing my intended voyage to Fort Langley until I had a competent person to leave in my stead—and as it would, perhaps, be useless (from the example I had of P. Charles' conduct) to trust only common men with the selection of the site of a new establishment I also thought it (all things considered) most advisable to give over my intentions in regard to begining the fort at Whidbey's Island until myself or some other gentleman would head the party that might be sent for that purpose—I therefore sent off a man in a small canoe with an Indian to order our people back with all the things—

Monday 16th This morning the people sent in search of Ouvré, whom they yesterday overtook safe & brought back, returned with all the property in the boat, which was once more safely lodged in the store without having received much damage, nothing having been injured except a few bags of corn, notwithstanding the rough sea we encountered. Ouvré learned that the Cadboro' proceeded on her voyage early on Saturday morning—

December [page 38]

Tuesday 17th Set all hands to work to put a part of the dwelling house in some kind of habitable order for the winter—The weather continues boisterous—

Wednesday 18th The men employed as yesterday—Weather somewhat more settled—Only some chance straggling Indians make their appearance, and these bring but little to trade

Thursday 19th The men employed as above—Weather also the same—

Friday 20th—As above

Saturday 21st The men employed as during the foregoing part of the week—Some Indians from down the Sound, arrived with a few beaver to trade, but are still much disinclined to give two for a blank—Weather frosty—

Sunday 22nd Cold frosty weather—Several Indian families came in as usual to get some religious instruction—I began to give them some instruction soon after my arrival which they treated with much indifference but I have at length succeeded in altering their savage natures so far, that they not only listen with attention to what I tell them but actually practice it—

December [page 39]

Monday 23rd Set all hands to work to collect firewood—A few Indians arrived but brought only two beaver to trade. Weather very cold—froze intensely all night and thawed none during the day.

Tuesday 24th The men employed as yesterday—Nothing done in the way of trade—Weather still frosty—

Wednesday 25th—This being Christmas day I gave the men a liberal Regale of eatables and drinkables to make up in some measure for the bad living they have had all year here, and they enjoyed the feast as might be expected men would do who lived solely on soup since they came here. Weather still very cold—

Thursday 26th The men were allowed to rest from their labors, today as they are rather fagged after yesterday's indulgence—A hurricane or whirlwind passed and broke down the largest trees in its way like straws—

Friday 27th—Set all hands to work to square oak wood for making two Bastions of 12 sq. each either for this place or Whidbey's Island, as they may be required—Rainy weather.

December [page 40]

Saturday 28th The men employed as yesterday Traded 6 beaver skins & three otters.—Weather Rainy—

Sunday 29th—Weather as yesterday—Held forth for about an hour, on religious subjects to the Indians who as usual collected for edification—

Monday 30th The men employed sawing and squaring oak wood for Bastions—The weather has again set in frosty—No trade

Tuesday 31st—The men employed as yesterday—Froze intensely during the last 24 hours—Many Indians have collected about the place who have a good many beaver, &c—They are very anxious to obtain supplies but are reluctant to give two beavers per blanket—To say the least of it, it was the most blind policy to begin the trade here in the spring at one beaver per blanket, when there were no opposition on the coast with the intention of afterwards raising the price to two.—Circumstanced as we have been here it has been no agreeable job to raise the price to two, as it exposed us to constant jarrings with the natives who are still in bad humour on that account—The reducing of prices is an easy business, but to raise them a difficult one at all times and ought never to be done but in cases of absolute necessity—

January 1834 [page 46]

Wednesday 1st Gave the men a blowout similar to that which they had on Christmas day, which afforded them ample enjoyment—The frosty weather continues—

Thursday 2nd The men were not required to work today as they are rather indisposed after yesterday's debauch—Weather still frosty—

Friday 3rd—All hands resumed their former occupations, that is to say, two were employed sawing planks and the rest squaring oak logs for Bastions—Weather as above.

Saturday 4th As yesterday

Sunday 5th The weather still frosty—Many Indians are on the ground offering up their devotions to their maker—

Monday 6th Two men sawing and the rest preparing wood for bastions, and as they will continue so employed during the week it will be unnecessary to report their work daily—Rained during the night and most part of this day—Some business done in the way of traffic with the natives

Tuesday 7th Traded all the skins which the Indians about the place had, amounting to about 50 Beaver and otters. Weather foggy with light rain at intervals

January 1834 [page 42]

Wednesday 8th Very few Indians now about the place—Rain and sunshine at intervals—

Thursday 9th—Weather as yesterday—

Friday 10th—Weather very disagreeable; having rain, frost, snow and sleet all in succession within the 24 hours—

Saturday 11th The week's work of the people has been miserable—little has been done and that little very badly done—which is however not owing to the disinclination of the men to do their work well but to their incapacity—

Sunday 12th Many of the neighboring Indians assembled to go through their devotions, and it is very satisfactory to perceive that they at length begin to think seriously on religious subjects. Weather rainy

Monday 13th The people employed as during the past week, namely, sawing, squaring oak wood for bastions, cutting firewood &c. Traded some beaver from the Inds. who arrived yesterday—Weather as yesterday

Tuesday 14th Sent off five men in a boat to Fort Langley for some supplies and for the accounts of that place for Outfit 1833—I would have gone myself had I a proper person to leave in charge here—The rest of the men employed sawing and roofing the dwelling house—Snowed heavily in the afternoon—

January 1834 [page 43]

Wednesday 15th Two men sawing, two cutting firewood & two sick—Weather frosty, snowed heavily during the night—Traded 15 Made Beaver⁶⁵.

Thursday 16th The men employed as yesterday—Snowed much during last night and this day—No trade—

Friday 17th—Had the last of the covering of the Big House put on—Owing to the badness of our saw, and sawyers, we make but slow progress

⁶⁵Skins which were damaged and had been pieced together. They were inferior to the perfect skins but could be used in the London markets.

at cutting boards, as indeed we have done all along at every kind of work owing to the incapacity of our people—Those not employed at the covering of the house, were occupied at cutting and hauling home firewood—Weather very cold.—

Saturday 18th The people all employed at cutting and bringing home firewood—The weather continues very cold, and there is about two feet deep of snow on the ground.—

Sunday 19th—Weather as yesterday—

Monday 20th All hands employed squaring logs for Bastions, and hauling the same home with Oxen—The people are such bad squarers that a great part of this work already done is useless—Weather still frosty

Tuesday 21st—The people employed as yesterday—Weather rather milder than for some days past, but no thaw—Little doing in the way of trade—

January 1834 [page 44]

Wednesday 22nd The people employed as last stated, viz squaring and hauling home oak logs for Bastions—Weather still cold and the snow undiminished—

Thursday 23rd The people employed as yesterday—Weather also the same—

Friday 24th Sent two men to the Nusqually to kill game, but it appears the cold weather has driven them all away, so our hunters returned empty handed.—The rest of the people finished squaring the Bastion logs—Weather cold—

Saturday 25th Sent four men with five horses a deer hunting; the rest of the people employed squaring posts for the bastions—clear cold weather as for some time past—

Sunday 26th—Weather very clear and cold—A good many Indians about the place performing their religious duties, in which they have become very punctual.

Monday 27th Two men employed cutting firewood, and two squaring posts for bastions—All the Indians who assembled yesterday, left early this morning for their several camps—Weather as yesterday—

Tuesday 28th The people employed as yesterday—Weather also the same—Clear and cold—Some Cowlitz Inds. arrived, with a few beaver, but did not trade by reason, they say, our goods are too dear—These fellows have already traded at two beaver per blanket, and they again make a stand; so difficult is it to change a tariff with them—

January 1834 [page 45]

Wednesday 29th Two men employed squaring wood for bastions—two cutting firewood—The four men who went a hunting on the 25th re-

turned unsuccessful having killed only one deer, which they ate the whole except one joint—An Indian arrived with the unpleasant intelligence that a vessel has been lately wreck at Cape Flattery and that all hand perished except two men who are now with the Indians there.

Thursday 30th Two men sawing, one making fort gates, and two at the bastion wood, one looking after the cattle and one cutting firewood—Ouvré getting a canoe in readiness to set out tomorrow to ascertain the truth of the Indian report about the ship wreck—Rained heavily during the day—

Tuesday 31st The men employed as yesterday—Ouvré set off with an Indian for the purpose above stated—Rained all last night and this day with a hurricane wind—

Saturday 1st February The duties of the place as yesterday—Weather much the same, but if anything, more boisterous—The snow is now entirely gone

Sunday 2nd Towards break day this morning we were visited by a dreadful hurricane of wind which tore up some of the largest trees by the roots, broke others and nearly blew down the fort which was only saved by the shelter of the woods to windward and the props we placed to support it

February 1834.—[page 46]

Monday 3rd—All hands employed squaring the frame wood of the bastions, that already prepared being useless—It is in this clumsy manner we have all along got on with our work for want of skillful workmen, most of the jobs having to be done twice before they will anything like answer—Weather still boisterous—Traded 36 Beaver

Tuesday 4th—The people employed as yesterday—High winds and heavy rain—

Wednesday 5th As yesterday

Thursday 6th Two men employed squaring logs for building a kitchen and the rest at making the bastions—Traded a few beaver and otters—Weather rather more settled than for some days past—No trade—

Friday 7th The people employed as yesterday—Weather rainy—No trade—Late in the evening Ouvré returned and reported that the story about the shipwreck is a mere fabrication which he ascertained at the Chlallum village at New Duginess⁶⁶—Traded a few skins

Saturday 8th Duties of the place as above—Rained heavily during last night, but the day was clear and pleasant—Traded a few skins and a little fresh venison—sufficient to give one day's ration to the people which is the first rations, the product of the place, they have had.

⁶⁶New Dungeness which was named by Captain George Vancouver in April, 1792, from its resemblance to Dungeness, in the British channel.

February 1834 [page 47]

Sunday 9th Rained during the night but clear and serene in the day time—

Monday 10th Weather as yesterday—Two men hauling home logs with the Oxen—three making bastions and two squaring logs for making a kitchen of 15 ft square. No trade—

Tuesday 11th As yesterday

Wednesday 12th—Heavy rain and high wind—The bastions were at last finished—at least everything is fitted and put together on the ground so that we only want hands enough to raise them—Two men as usual preparing wood for a kitchen—

Thursday 13th The weather but little improved—All hands employed putting up a kitchen of 15 feet square—No trade

Friday 14th—As yesterday

Saturday 15th Nothing particular—

Sunday 16th Snowed about a foot during last night—and continued snowing heavily during the day—

Monday 17th Sent Ouvré and Brown on a trading excursion to environs of Ouvré's River⁶⁷. The rest of the people employed as on Saturday. Traded a few skins from a few Indians of the Sound who arrived yesterday—snowed again today

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Tuesday 18th—Snowed so heavily as to render it impossible for our people to carry on the building of the kitchen—Nothing a doing—

Wednesday 19th Weather but little improved and but little work done except getting firewood—

Thursday 20th Weather cold and clear—Two men sawing—two hauling home firewood & the rest cutting firewood—Traded a few skins—

Friday 21st—Our people at length returned from Frasers River after experiencing a very tedious & unpleasant voyage, both going and coming—They brought some supplies for Outfit 1834 but not all that were requested—

Saturday 22nd Sent Ouvré, with four men, & an Indian Chief as a protector, on a trading excursion to the Klallams &c—And sent Pierre Charles with three men on a hunting excursion amongst the Islands of the Sound—The few hands at home employed airing the furs & goods which I find rather damp—

Sunday 23rd—Clear mild weather—

⁶⁷Ouvre's River. This is the Duwamish River. See: Journal of William Fraser Tolmie, July 8-10, 1833, for an account of an excursion to the country adjacent to the city of Seattle. Ouvrie had brought intelligence to the effect that the country was favorable for the site of a trading post, but the excursion proved it to be unfavorable.

Monday 24th The men at home employed cutting and hauling some firewood—Traded a few skins from Nusqually and Skatchet Indians who again begin to grumble loudly at our two beaver tariff—Weather mild & snow deep—

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Tuesday 25th Pierre Charles and his associates returned with the meat of 8 Chiv.⁶⁸ deer—The snow thaws a little in the day time but it freezes strongly during the night—Traded five beaver skins from a Soquamish Indian

Wednesday 26th The people who yesterday arrived did no work and the others were employed as yesterday and the day before, drying furs & goods which are rather damp Weather clear & mild in the day time, but cold at night—Snow still deep—

Thursday 27th The men all employed cutting fence poles—The trade is now very dull the Indians being determined to hold up their furs, now that the severity of the winter is over, in hopes of an opposition casting up—Fine warm weather in the day time but the nights are still cold; the snow however is nearly all gone except in the woods, where it is still at least half a foot deep—

Friday 28th Took the Inventory of the property in Store and closed the business of Outfit 1833—The men employed as yesterday—The weather continues fine—

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Saturday—The people of the place employed cutting fence poles—And Ouvré and party returned from the Klalams with about fifty made Beaver, being but a small portion of the furs that those Indians have on hand, but with which they will not part at our prices, resolved like all the other tribes to wait the arrival of an opposition—Weather fine—

Sunday 2nd Fine weather—The ground nearly all bare of snow.⁶⁹

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⁶⁸Chevreuil is the French word for roebuck, the male of the roedeer (*Capreolus caprea*).

⁶⁹Owing to the bookbinder's blunder the pages of the Nisqually Journal containing the records from March 2 to May 19 have been left out of the present volume, and other pages, quite irrelevant, have been substituted. These irrelevant pages have been numbered with the rest, and the Journal will be continued in the next issue of the Quarterly as page 72.